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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/653,062 | 09/01/2000 | Wesley G. Brewer | 11587 M-10325 US | 5434 |

36257 7590 05/16/2003
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| EXAMINER |
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VO, TIM T

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2189
DATE MAILED: 05/16/2003

12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | 09/653,062 | BREWER ET AL. |
| Examiner | Art Unit | |
| Tim T. Vo | 2189 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 March 2003 .

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 11-16 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 10.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. The previous reference Aoki does not disclose wherein the internal camera memory 115 is a "memory card" and there is no disclose wherein IC memory card 3 (input-output card) is electrically and mechanically attached to the memory 115.

Part III DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

This application has been examined. Claims 1-16 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action: A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1, 3-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kondo et al. patent number 6,151,652 referred hereinafter "Kondo".

As for claims 1 and 8, Kondo teaches a method of communicating data between a non-volatile memory card connected with a host system and an external device (see figure 2 and column 8 lines 60-67, memory card 5 (non-volatile memory), computer 3

(host), digital camera 1 (external device), wherein the memory card 5 is connected with the computer 3 via interface cable 4 and also connected to the digital camera 1 via I/O card 2), comprising electrically and mechanically attaching an input-output card to the memory card, and communicating data between the memory card and the external device through the input-output card rather than through the host system (see figure 2 and column 9 lines 4-8 and column 8 lines 65-67, wherein the two cards I/O card 2 and memory card 5 are attached via connector 23. Further, Column 9 lines 60-67 cited that a digital camera 1 transferred image data to the memory card 5 then link to the I/O card 2 rather through the computer 3).

As for claims 3-4, Kondo teach wherein attaching the input-output card to the memory card includes engaging mating connectors provided on edges of the memory and the input-output cards, wherein the memory card connector is positioned on an opposite side of the memory card from an edge along which electrical contacts are positioned that are connected to the host (see figure 2, connector 23).

As for claims 5 and 7, Kondo teaches wherein communicating data between the memory card and the external device through the input-output card utilizes a controller in the memory card that also controls the transfer of data between the memory in the memory card and the host (see figure 2, digital camera 1, I/O card 2, memory card 5, computer 3 and column 7 lines 34-47).

As for claims 6 and 10, Kondo teaches wherein the non-volatile memory card includes either a SD or a MMC card that has been modified to allow electrical and mechanical attachment of the input-output card thereto (see column 1 lines 25-39).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 2 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kondo in view of Anderson patent number 6,499,016 and further in view of Kanno patent number 5,831,533.

As for claims 2 and 9, Kondo does not expressly teach wherein data is wirelessly communicated between the input-output card and the external device through an antenna included within input-output card. However, Anderson teaches wireless communication for transferring images data (see column 5 lines 16-17). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Anderson into the teachings of Kondo because wireless provides mobile flexibility and it would reduce hardware cost such as cables.

Kondo and Anderson do not expressly teach input output card included an antenna. However, Kanno teaches a wireless card has wireless communication function and an antenna. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Kondo into the teachings of Kondo and Anderson because an antenna

provided in a wireless card providing a strong signal connections, thereby preventing from disconnection and loosing data while in transmitting.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

4. Claims 11-15 are allowable over the prior of records.
5. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claims 11 is allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner found neither prior art cited in its entirety, nor based on the prior art, found any motivation to combine any of the said prior arts. Prior art fails to teach a data storage and transfer system including an enclosed rectangularly shaped memory card and an enclosed rectangularly shaped input-output card, wherein the memory comprises: first and second sets of externally accessible electrical contacts positioned along respective first and second edges thereof, a re-programmable non-volatile memory contained therein for the storage of data, a controller contained therein, the controller being connected to the memory and to the first and second sets of electrical contacts, the controller managing operation of the memory and causing data to be transferred (a) between the memory and through the first set of contacts to a host system connected therewith, and (b) between the memory and through the second set of contacts to the input-output card connected therewith without passing through the first set of contacts, and a mechanism provided on an outside of the memory card along the second edge thereof for connection to the input-output card, and the input-output card comprises: a third set of external accessible electrical contacts along one edge thereof with a pattern complementary to that of the second set of

contacts, a mechanism provided on an outside of the input-output card along the one edge thereof that mates with the mechanism on the memory card in order to allow removable connection together of the memory and input-output cards along their respective second and one edges such that their respective second and third set of electrical contacts mate when the cards are connected together, communication circuits contained therein and connected with the third set of contacts for transferring data therethrough, and a data transmission and reception device connected to the communications circuit for transferring data between the communication circuit and external to the input-output card.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tim T. Vo whose telephone number is 703-308-5862. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-2100.



Tim T. Vo
Examiner
Art Unit 2189

T.V
May 14, 2003